

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
NSC-05 OIC-02 EB-07 SSO-00 /073 W
-----101209Z 113223 /41

P 101154Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3541
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 02994

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
SUBJECT: DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: PROPOSED
CHANGES

REF: (A) USNATO 2935 (DTG 091940Z MAY 77), (B) USNATO
2941 (DTG 092227Z MAY 77)

1. DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) WILL DISCUSS DRAFT DPC
MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (REF A) ON MAY 12. THE MAJOR
ISSUES YET TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE COMMITTEE ARE INFRA-
STRUCTURE AND AWACS. DUE TO THE UNRESOLVED NATURE OF
THESE TOPICS, WE EXPECT THAT NO AGREEMENT IS LIKELY BEFORE
THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE PRESENT, HOWEVER, FOR
WASHINGTON'S CONSIDERATION THE FOLLOWING TEXTS:

- A) AWACS: "MINISTERS REVIEWED THE STATUS OF ONGOING
ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP A NEW NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING
PROGRAM PROPOSAL WHICH WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE
UK DECISION TO PROVIDE ITS CONTRIBUTION IN KIND TOWARD
MEETING THE NATO REQUIREMENT. THEY REAFFIRMED THE IM-
PORTANCE OF PROVIDING AN ALLIANCE-WIDE CAPABILITY THROUGH
AN INTEROPERABLE FORCE OF NIMROD AND NATO E-3A AWACS
AIRCRAFT. MINISTERS, THEREFORE, AGREED TO INVEST ALL
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POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO REACH A FIRM PROCUREMENT DECISION AS
SOON AS PRACTICABLE."

- B) INFRASTRUCTURE: "MINISTERS AGREED (BEGIN
BRACKETS) IN PRINCIPLE (END BRACKETS) TO PROVIDE ADDI-
TIONAL FUNDS TO PERMIT THE CONTINUATION IN 1978-79 OF
THIS VERY VISIBLE EVIDENCE OF NATO SOLIDARITY AND CO-

HESION"; OR, IF THE ITALIANS AND/OR BELGIANS REMAIN UN-
ABLE TO AGREE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS, "MINISTERS
ACKNOWLEDGED THE INCREASINGLY URGENT NEED FOR ADDITIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS, NOTED THAT PROMPT ACTION IS
REQUIRED TO AVOID SERIOUS DELAY IN PLANNING FOR THE 1978
PROGRAM, AND URGED (BEGIN BRACKETS) THE REMAINING
NATION(S) (END BRACKETS) (BEGIN BRACKETS) ALL ALLIES
(END BRACKETS) TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL FUNDING AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE."

2. SUBJECT TO WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE, WE PROPOSE TO
INTRODUCE LANGUAGE ALONG THE ABOVE LINES DURING DRC DIS-
CUSSION, MAY 12.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS BY OPENING OF
BUSINESS MAY 12. STREATOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO02994
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770573/aaaackld.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 83f84497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USNATO 2935 (DTG 091940Z MAY 77), USNATO, 2941 (DTG 092227Z MAY 77)
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2577340
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: PROPOSED CHANGES
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
To: SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/83f84497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009